

Appendix 1 – Guildhall School of Music and Drama 2018/19 Scholarships



The Guildhall School remains exceptionally grateful to the Education Board for its grant of £30,000 in order to support scholarships for students in vital need.

Studying in London has never been more expensive. With tuition fees and the cost of living increasing year on year, receiving a scholarship can mean the difference between undertaking our programmes and benefiting from the exceptional training at the Guildhall School, or not continuing to pursue training at all. The School aims to ensure that anyone with the talent and ambition to excel are not constrained by financial circumstances.

2018 / 19 Scholarship Awards

No. of students supported:	570
Percentage of student body:	50%
Total awarded:	£2.1million

The scholarship awarding process

Scholarships are awarded based on three main criteria: (1) talent demonstrated through audition or interview, (2) potential to benefit from the training offered by the Guildhall School, and (3) personal financial need. Financial need is assessed by asking students to submit details about: Whether they are independent or if they have family who are able to support them; Parental occupation and income; Information relating to family's ability to support the student (e.g. additional dependents in higher education); Predicted expenditure; Predicted Income (including private funding, student loans, employment). This information is then considered collectively in making scholarship awarding decisions.

The cost of training

The average fees for the 2018/19 academic year are £9,250 (UK/EU students) and £21,750 (overseas). With living costs estimated to amount to an additional £15,000 per year, the substantial financial challenge facing students becomes abundantly clear.

Whilst student loans (where eligible), can go some way to covering these costs, the intensity of the course and significant additional practice hours required, prevents students from funding their studies with concurrent paid employment, meaning that most students commencing study at the School require additional sources of support.

Pressure on the scholarships fund

The School has experienced a considerable increase in demand on its scholarships fund, with a 29% increase in applications over the last three years. It is also becoming clear that a diverse cohort is only possible with increasing scholarship support, as those without the privilege of family support face an increasing disparity between their student loans and the actual costs of undertaking an intensive arts education in central London.

Case Studies

The Scholarships Fund is generously supported by a broad spectrum of donors including individuals, trusts, liveries and corporate companies. The following case studies represent

students in receipt of awards from the general Scholarships Fund in the 2018/19 academic year and are typical of the kinds of student to whom we would hope to allocate Education Board support in the future.

Student A

Bachelor of Arts (Acting)

Black British

£7,830 maintenance award

Student A was born and raised in Southwark, attending City Technology Schools in Rotherhithe and Deptford. Student A is estranged from their family therefore is entirely self-funded and their student loan only goes part of the way to covering their tuition fees and living costs.

Alongside their studies, student A had been working 12 hour shifts each Sunday (12pm – 12am) to be able to afford to continue studying, but this began to have a detrimental impact on their studies, and so Student A applied for maintenance support. This has allowed student A to dedicate themselves fully to their training, as well as having a significant effect on their health and wellbeing.

Student B

Bachelor of Music

White British

£13,000 maintenance award

Student B grew up in the Scottish Highlands, attending State schools in Fort William, Inverness. They come from a low-income single parent family, and their father is disabled and unable to work and contribute to student B's expenses.

"If it were not for your generous financial assistance, I would have been forced to decline my place and give up on my dream of becoming a professional musician. Now that I am here I am confident that I will succeed both here at Guildhall and in becoming a professional musician, and your support has and will continue to play a massive part in that."

Widening Participation & Access

The Guildhall School encourages applications from students whose backgrounds are underrepresented in higher education. We value the diversity of cultures at Guildhall and we believe in the power and duty of arts to transform lives and society. We are committed to ensuring there are no barriers to deter talented students from applying and coming to the School.

Alongside our major commitment to financial scholarships, the School has undertaken a range of Widening Participation and Access activities including:

- Signed up to a three-year partnership with the Diversity School's Initiative, set up to address under-representation and diversity in UK Drama Schools.
- Increased commitment to Fee Waivers for applicants from target areas.
- Increased our work in Widening Participation and Creative Learning, engaging with tens of thousands of young people across London and beyond.
- Partnered with Open Door, a charity dedicated to supporting those from disadvantaged backgrounds with the skills and financial resources needed to apply for leading drama schools.

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